

MINUTES

Beaufort County Airports Board

March 16, 2023 | 1:30 pm | Meeting called to order by Chairman Howard Ackerman

ATTENDANCE

Present: Howard Ackerman, Leslie Adlam Flory, Anne Esposito, Mark Bailey, Thomas Sheahan, Brian Turrisi and Nick Mesenburg

Absent: Chris Butler and James Buckley

County Staff: Jon Rembold, Airports Director; Stephen Parry, Deputy Airports Director; and Rocio Rexrode, Administrative Specialist.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: Mark Bailey made a motion to adopt the agenda. Anne Esposito seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Brian Turrisi made a motion to approve the February 23, 2023, meeting minutes. Thomas Sheahan seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Ames, Hilton Head Island Town Council Liaison, informed that there is a pending vacancy on the Airport Board. He mentioned that Turrisi's term expired at the end of February. He said that Hilton Head Island Town Council will be meeting in Executive Session and will be reviewing the many applications that were submitted to fill the pending vacancy.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **DEPARTMENT UPDATE:**

Public Relations/Education:

Jon Rembold mentioned that Steve Parry spoke at Career Day at Bridges Prep.

Jon mentioned that a high school junior from John Paul II Catholic school visited/tour the airport as part of the school's Career Day.

Jon mentioned that he spoke at the Sunset Rotary Club. He said it was a nice interactive discussion, and that the audience was very receptive.

Jon mentioned that the Airport participated in the Saint Patrick's Day Parade. He said that having the new ARFF truck in the parade was fantastic. He said many kids and adults got a tour of the truck.

BCAB as Advocates:

Jon Rembold reminded the Members that the primary role of the Board is to be advocates for the Airports. He asked the Members if they would consider going to the Committee Meetings and to stand up when items are being presented for a Council vote. He said it would mean a lot to County Council.

Jon Rembold said that having Members present during Airports events is very much appreciated.

Staff Spotlight: Robin “Rob” Neil

Jon Rembold mentioned that Rob has served as a firefighter for 43 years at various agencies. He said that Rob retired in 2010 after 30 years of service, but after only three weeks of retirement, he went back into the fire service as a firefighter for the Hilton Head Island Airport. Jon Rembold said that he is glad to have Rob as part of the team.

- **ARW UPDATE:**

Aviation Week/Chamber Event:

Jon Rembold mentioned that Beaufort Executive Airport is hosting the Beaufort Regional Chamber monthly event during Aviation Week (April 27th | 5 pm – 6:30 pm). He said it is a great opportunity to be able to pair of Aviation Week with the Chamber’s monthly event. He said folks from Aviation Association, Aeronautics Commission and some of our elected officials will be there.

Sponsor Opportunities available:

Jon Rembold mentioned that there are sponsor opportunities for the event. He stated that Campbell Oil is underwriting most of the event.

- **HXD UPDATE:**

Terminal Airside Paint:

Rembold said that the paint for the Terminal building on the airside has been completed.

Tower Project Grant:

Rembold stated that a bid was selected, and the grant application has been submitted.

Airline Coordination Meeting:

Rembold said that representatives of Delta and American Airlines were present at the meeting. He said they reviewed some of the items and that they will be talking about in more detail as it gets closer to the Terminal project coming online.

TSA Pre-Check:

Rembold mentioned the TSA Pre-Check event will be held the week of March 27-31.

Career Day: Millie Coombs – John Paul II Catholic High School

Jon mentioned that Millie Coombs, a Junior at John Paul II Catholic High School, spend few hours at HXD. He said Millie met TBE staff, had the opportunity to tour and seat in the cockpit of a private plane, and took a ride in the ARFF truck.

DISCUSSION: There was an extensive discussion regarding Tower controllers and the need to update the flight traffic monitoring system.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS

1. **HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT (HXD) - RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A COMMERCIAL OPERATING AGREEMENT AND LEASE AT 32 HUNTER RD BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND GITIBIN & ASSOCIATES, LLC DBA GO RENTALS**

Anne Esposito made a motion to approve the recommendation to approve a commercial operating agreement and lease agreement at 32 Hunter Road between Beaufort County and Gitibin & Associates, LLC DBA Go Rentals. Leslie Adlam Flory seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

2. **HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT (HXD) - RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A LEASE AT 32 HUNTER RD BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND ACE HARDWARE OF HILTON HEAD**

Brian Turrisi made a motion to approve the recommendation to approve a lease agreement at 32 Hunter Road between Beaufort County and ACE Hardware of Hilton Head. Thomas Sheahan seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

3. **HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT (HXD) - RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A COMMERCIAL OPERATING AGREEMENT BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY AND THE HELIPORT LLC**

Mark Bailey made a motion to approve the recommendation to approve a commercial operating agreement between Beaufort County and The Heliport, LLC. Leslie Adlam Flory seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

CHAIRMAN UPDATE

1. **Finance Committee**

Members: Howard Ackerman (Chair), Anne Esposito, Chris Butler, and Brian Turrisi.

The Committee has nothing new to report this month. They will keep the board informed of any developments.

2. **Communications and Marketing Committee**

Members: Jim Buckley (Chair), Brian Turrisi, and Leslie Adlam Flory.

The Committee has nothing new to report this month. They will keep the board informed of any new developments.

3. Passenger Service Committee

Members: Leslie Adlam Flory (Chair), Anne Esposito

The Committee has nothing new to report this month. They will keep the board informed of any new developments.

4. ARW Facilities Use and Improvement Committee

Members: Chris Butler (Chair), Mark Bailey, and Trey Ambrose

Chris Butler reported that the gate at the ARW is working and operational.

5. The HHI Airport General Aviation Improvement Committee (HXD)

Members: Howard Ackerman and Brian Turrisi.

The Committee has nothing new to report this month. They will keep the board informed of any new developments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Ames, Hilton Head Island Town Council Liaison, said that regarding Tower controllers and the need to update the flight traffic monitoring system, the Town and the Chamber of Commerce would be happy to advocate for that improvement.

Tom Reitz, County Council Liaison, thanked the Board for having him at the meeting. He asked the Board to let County Council know if there is anything they can help with.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made at 2:22 pm. It passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

April 20, 2023 | 1:30 pm | Hybrid Meeting

Beaufort County Council Chambers, 100 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, SC.